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an optocoupler coupled to said solid state electrical switch to provide said first and second control signals, said optocoupler receiving first and second electrical signals [from a signal bus] and providing as said first and second control signals optically isolated output signals representing said first and second electrical signals; and

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[a plurality of devices coupled to said] a signal bus for coupling a plurality of devices to said optocoupler, each device being capable of providing as output signals [of said devices] said first and second electrical signals.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-114 are pending. Claim 69 is amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's invention.

The Examiner objected to Applicants' previous election of the species of Fig. 1 on which independent Claims 1, 69, 72, 76, 87, 98, 100, 111, 113 and 114 read. The Examiner states:

Applicant has "elected" ALL of the pending claims, which is clearly not a "Single Species". The reasoning for this election of ALL 114 claims is clearly in error. Applicant states that all claims read on the circuit 200 of Figure 1. Such simply cannot stand as, for instance, 17 and 19 are "touch panels" which are clearly outside of circuit 200. A proper election of species of Figure 1 would have been to the combined elements at block level as shown in Figure 1. Applicant has submitted 114 claims, of which the 9 independent claims are directed to (1) a solid state electrical switch, (69) a multipoint random control system, (72) an initialization circuit, (76) a method of providing a solid state electrical switch for controlling a electrical load, (87) a method for providing an electrical switch for delivering AC power to a load, (98) a method for detecting contact of a touch panel, (100) an overcurrent tripping circuit, (111) a method for providing a solid state switch coupled in series with a load and an outlet of AC power, and finally (114) a